# Chapter 2
# Introduction to the M9 Service Pistol

**Note**
The procedures in this manual are written for right-handed Marines; left-handed Marines should reverse instructions as necessary.

## 2001. Characteristics

- The M9 service pistol is a semiautomatic, magazine fed, recoil operated, double action pistol, chambered for the 9mm ball, NATO M882 round.
- The pistol can be fired single action or double action and is designed to fire one round each time the trigger is pulled. When the last round is fired, the slide automatically locks to the rear.
- The pistol has a maximum effective range of 50 meters (54.7 yards).
- The magazine holds 15 rounds.

## 2002. Functional Capabilities

When the M9 service pistol is taken off safe, it can be fired in the single action and double action mode.

**a. Single Action Mode.** The single action mode is a functional capability of the pistol that allows the pistol to be fired when the hammer is cocked; single action requires the hammer to be cocked to the rear before the trigger is pulled. The hammer can be manually cocked or mechanically cocked. The hammer is mechanically cocked after the first shot is fired. See figure 2-1.

**Figure 2-1. M9 Service Pistol Single Action Mode.**

**b. Double Action Mode.** The double action mode is a functional capability of the pistol that causes the hammer to move to the rear as the trigger is being pulled. See figure 2-2.

**Figure 2-2. M9 Service Pistol Double Action Mode.**

**2003. Nomenclature**

**a. Right Side of Pistol.** See figure 2-3.

(1) Decocking/Safety Lever.

(2) Firing Pin Block

(3) Extractor / Loaded Chamber Indicator

(4) Disassembly Button

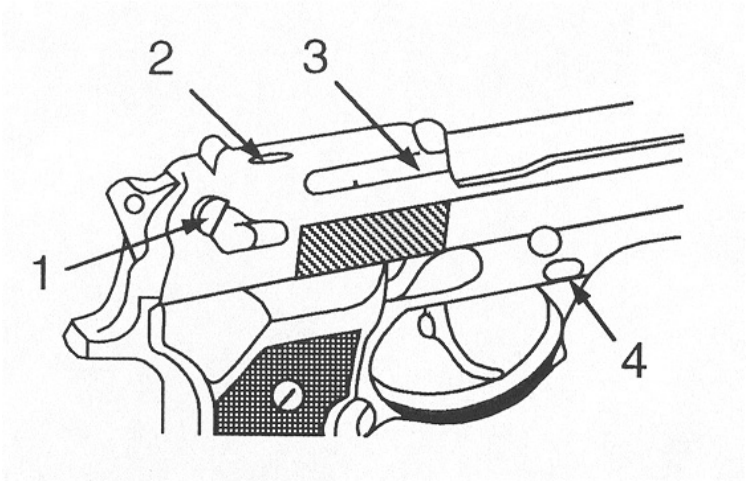


**Figure 2-3. M9 Service Pistol - Right Side View.**

**b. Left Side of Pistol.** See figure 2-4.

(5) Front Sight

(6) Slide Assembly

(7) Disassembly Lever

(8) Slide Stop

(9) Rear Sight

(10) Hammer

(11) Receiver

(12) Grip

(13) Lanyard Loop

(14) Magazine

(15) Magazine Catch Assembly

(16) Trigger

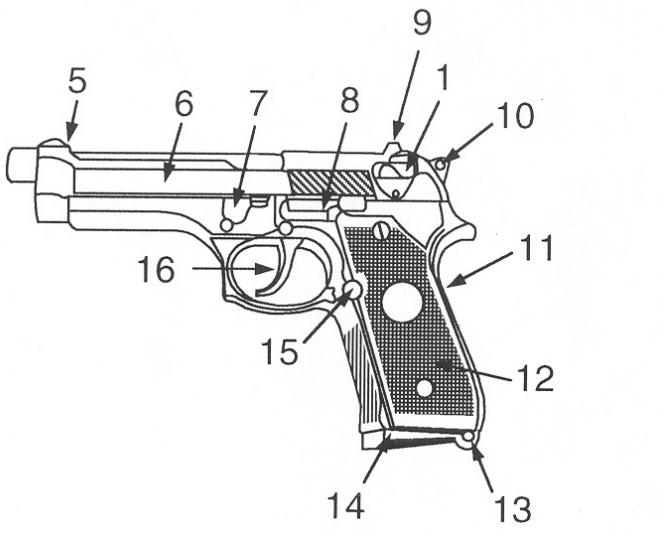


**Figure 2-4. M9 Service Pistol - Left Side View.**

**2004. Major Components.** See figure 2-5.

**a. Slide Assembly.** The slide assembly houses the firing pin, firing pin block, striker, extractor, and loaded chamber indicator, and cocks the hammer during recoil.

**(1) Extractor.** The extractor pulls the brass from the chamber after the round is fired.

**(2) Loaded Chamber Indicator.** When a round is in the chamber, the upper surface of the loaded chamber indicator protrudes from the right side of the slide. This protrusion can be felt by touch to verify that there is a round in the chamber.

**b. Barrel Assembly.** The barrel assembly houses the round for firing, directs the projectile, and locks the barrel in position during firing.

**c. Receiver.** The receiver supports the major components, controls the functioning of the pistol, and holds the magazine in place. The front and back straps of the grip are vertically grooved to ensure the hand does not slip when firing.

**(1) Disassembly Button.** This component permits quick disassembly of the pistol. While depressing the disassembly button, rotate the disassembly lever down.

**(2) Slide Stop.** The slide stop holds the slide to the rear after the last round is fired. It can also be manually operated to lock the slide to the rear or to release the slide.

**(3) Magazine Catch Assembly (Magazine Release Button).** This component secures the magazine in place when loading and releases the magazine from the pistol when unloading. The magazine catch assembly is designed for both right- and left-handed Marines. (Reversal of the magazine catch assembly for left-handed Marines can be performed by a qualified armorer.)

**Figure 2-5. M9 Service Pistol Major Components.**

## 2005. Safety Features

The safety features of the M9 service pistol include the safety, firing pin block, and half-cock notch.

**a. Decocking/Safety Lever.** The safety permits safe operation of the pistol by both right- and left-handed shooters. As the safety is moved to the safe (down) position, the firing pin striker moves out of alignment with the firing pin. This movement prevents the pistol from firing as the hammer moves forward.

**Note**
In the fire (up) position, a red dot is visible, indicating the pistol is ready to fire.

**b. Firing Pin Block.** The firing pin block rests in the firing pin notch and prevents movement of the firing pin until the trigger is pulled. As the trigger is pulled, the firing pin block moves up and out of the firing pin notch. This movement allows a round to be fired when the hammer strikes the firing pin.

**c. Half-Cock Notch.** The half-cock notch stops the forward movement of the hammer during a mechanical failure.

## 2006. Cycle of Operation

There are eight steps in the cycle of operation for the M9 service pistol:

**a. Firing.** Once the safety is off and the trigger is pulled to the rear, the hammer falls on the firing pin, which strikes the primer and ignites the round. See figure 2-6.

**Figure 2-6. Firing.**

**b. Unlocking.** As the slide assembly moves to the rear, the locking block rotates out of the notches in the slide. See figure 2-7.

**Figure 2-7. Unlocking.**

**c. Extracting.** As the slide moves rearward, the extractor withdraws the cartridge case out of the chamber. See figure 2-8.

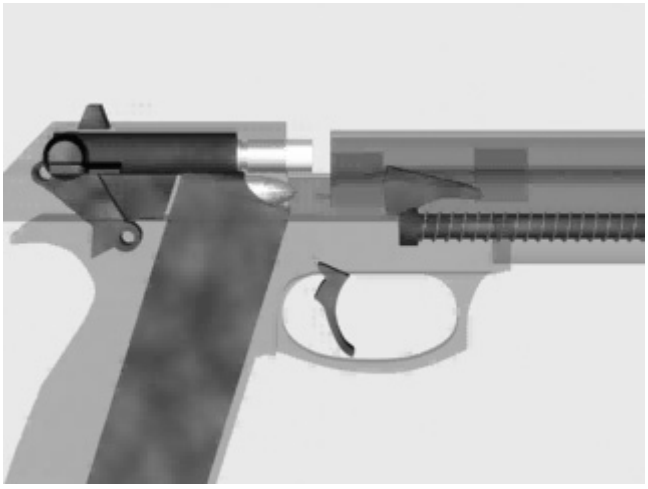

**Figure 2-8. Extracting.**

**d. Ejecting.** As the face of the slide passes over the ejector, the case strikes the ejector and is knocked upward and outward through the ejection port. See figure 2-9.

**Figure 2-9. Ejecting.**

**e. Cocking.** As the slide moves rearward, the hammer is pushed back allowing the sear to engage the hammer hooks, cocking the hammer to the rear and placing the pistol in the single action mode. See figure 2-10.

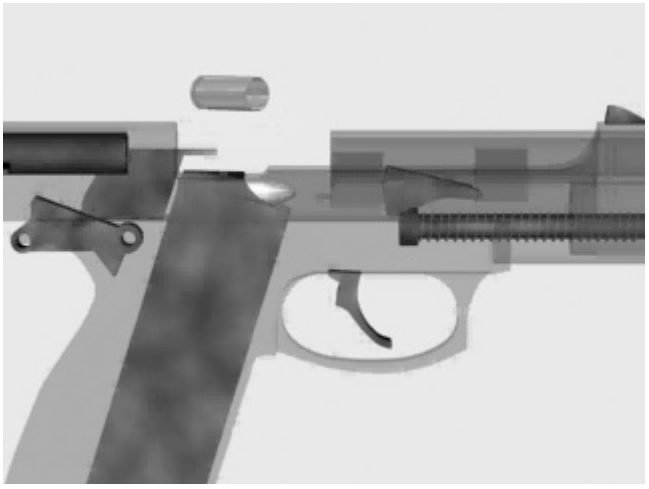

**Figure 2-10. Cocking.**

**f. Feeding.** The slide starts forward, pushed by the recoil spring. The face of the slide makes contact with the cartridge at the top of the magazine, stripping it from the magazine and pushing it toward the chamber. See figure 2-11.

**Figure 2-11. Feeding.**

**f. Chambering.** As the slide continues forward, it pushes the cartridge into the chamber. See figure 2-12.

**Figure 2-12. Chambering.**

**h. Locking.** As the slide assembly continues to move forward, the locking block lugs move into the locking block recesses on the right and left sides of the slide. See figure 2-13.

**Figure 2-13. Locking.**

**2007. Ammunition**

The only ammunition authorized for the M9 service pistol is 9mm ball, NATO M882. See figure 2-14. For training purposes, dummy ammunition can be used. A dummy round is identified by a hole drilled in its side and the absence of a primer. Do not open ammunition containers until the ammunition is to be used. Ammunition must be cared for just as the pistol is maintained -- in a high state of readiness. To care for ammunition:

- Keep ammunition dry and clean. If ammunition gets wet or dirty, wipe it off with a clean dry cloth.
- Wipe off light corrosion as soon as it is discovered. Never use ammunition that is heavily corroded, dented, or has the projectile pushed in.
- Do not expose ammunition to the direct rays of the sun for long periods of time.
- Do not oil or grease ammunition. Dust or other abrasives that collect on greasy ammunition may cause damage to the operating parts of the pistol. Oiled cartridges produce excessive chamber pressure.

**Figure 2-14. M9 Service Pistol Ammunition.**

**2008. Wearing of M9 Service Pistol Gear**

The proper placement of pistol gear will help ensure safety and aid the Marine in effectively handling and employing the weapon.

**a. M12 Holster.** The M12 holster consists of the holster, removable holster flap, and metal retaining clip which can be installed on either side of the holster for right or left-handed Marines. See figure 2-15.

- To check for proper placement of the holster, allow the right arm to hang freely. The holster should be slightly in front of the arm to permit easy access to the pistol upon presentation from the holster.

- In most cases, the holster is issued with the holster flap installed for right-handed Marines. To convert the holster for left-handed Marines, remove the metal retaining clip and install on the opposite side of the holster.

**b. M1 Ammunition Pocket.** The ammunition pocket should be attached to the cartridge belt on the side opposite the holster in a position that best permits ready access for reloads. A magazine should be stored in the ammunition pocket with rounds down and pointed inboard.

**Figure 2-15. Wearing of M12 Holster and Ammunition Pocket.**

**c. M7 Shoulder Holster.** The M7 shoulder holster consists of a holster with a thumb snap closure, shoulder strap, chest strap, and a belt retaining loop. The holster is positioned on the left side of the chest to provide easy and quick access with the right hand. See figure 2-16. The M7 holster comes fully assembled and has adjustable straps to accommodate each individual Marine's body size. The holster is available for right-handed Marines only, therefore, left-handed Marines will have to withdraw the pistol from the holster with the right hand and then transfer the pistol to the left hand before firing. (See paragraph 9005 on transferring the pistol from one hand to the other). When worn properly:

- The shoulder strap lays flat across the left shoulder with the shoulder pad directly on top of the shoulder.
- The chest strap is attached to the D-ring at the top of the holster, and runs diagonally across the chest, underneath the right arm, and around the back where it attaches to the end of the shoulder strap.
- The belt retaining loop is located at the bottom of the holster and is attached to the belt to stabilize the holsters position.
- The ammunition pocket is attached to the chest strap directly underneath the right arm.

**Figure 2-16. Wearing of M7 Shoulder Holster.**

**c. Assault Holster.** Many Marines (e.g., Marine Security Force, Direct Action Platoon, Military Police) carry the assault holster. This holster has a retention strap that fastens over the top of the holster to retain the pistol. This type of holster generally has a thumb break on the retention strap that is disengaged to access the pistol. See figure 2-17.

**Figure 2-17. Wearing of the Assault Holster.**

**e. Concealed Pistol Holster.** A small percentage of Marines is required to carry a concealed pistol as part of their Marine Corps duties. There are several places a concealed pistol may be carried on the person.

- The primary consideration for placement of a concealed holster is to ensure the pistol cannot be seen. When considering placement of the concealed holster, the Marine must consider the type of clothing he will be wearing. See figures 2-18, 2-19, 2-20, and 2-21.

**Figure 2-18. Wearing of the Concealed Pistol Holster – Utilities.**

**Figure 2-19. Wearing of the Concealed Pistol Holster – Sweater.**

**Figure 2-20. Wearing of the Concealed Pistol Holster – Jacket.**

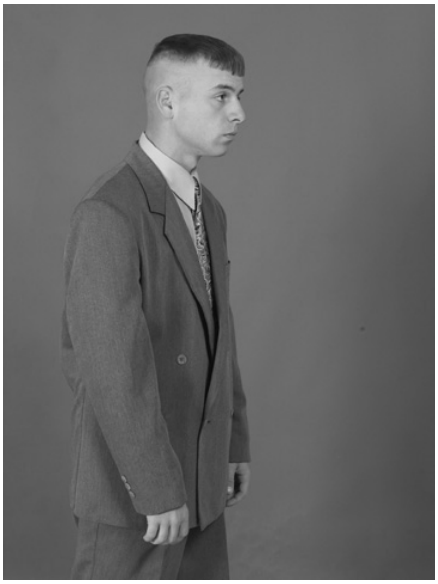

**Figure 2-21. Wearing of the Concealed Pistol Holster – Civilian Attire.**

- A secondary consideration is to place it so the pistol can be presented easily. In most cases, the best position for a concealed holster is just behind the strong side hip. This position best conceals the weapon while allowing it to be presented quickly. See figures 2-22, 2-23, 2-24, and 2-25. A second position is in a shoulder holster placing the pistol just under the weak side arm.

**Figure 2-22. Wearing of the Concealed Pistol Holster – Utilities (Cont.).**

**Figure 2-23. Wearing of the Concealed Pistol Holster – Sweater (Cont.).**

**Figure 2-24. Wearing of the Concealed Pistol Holster – Jacket (Cont.).**

**Figure 2-25. Wearing of the Concealed Pistol Holster – Civilian Attire (Cont.).**

**f. Lanyard.** The lanyard is used primarily to aid in weapons retention. It is adjustable and consists of a fabric cord, two cylindrical slip rings, and a metal clip which attaches the lanyard to the lanyard loop of the pistol. See figure 2-26. To don the lanyard:

- Adjust the slip rings so they are positioned flush with the base (clip end) of the lanyard.
- Place the right arm through the loop and place the loop over the head, resting on the left shoulder.
- Attach the metal clip to the lanyard loop on the pistol.
- Place the pistol in the holster.
- With the left hand, hold the bottom slip ring against the base of the lanyard. With the right hand, slide the top slip ring upward to position the loop of the lanyard under the arm. The lanyard should fit snugly against the body, but not restrict the Marine's movements.
- If necessary, tuck any excess cord behind the holster.
- To ensure the lanyard is adjusted properly, remove the pistol from the holster and fully extend the right arm. The lanyard should be taut. Make adjustments as necessary.
- The lanyard must be re-adjusted if any equipment changes are made (e.g., flak jacket).
- The lanyard is issued in three sizes.

**Figure 2-26. Wearing of M9 Service Pistol Gear (with lanyard).**

**g. Firing the M9 Service Pistol While Wearing Gloves.** Not all combat engagements will take place during ideal weather conditions. During cold weather, the Marine may find it necessary to wear gloves to protect his fingers from frostbite and help prevent stiffening of the hands. Gloves may also be worn in MOPP conditions. Gloves provide protection to the hands, however, they also may interfere with the Marine's ability to engage targets effectively.

**(1) Operational Features.** The added bulk of the gloves may affect the Marine's ability to manipulate the safety, magazine release button, magazine, hammer, and slide stop/release. For example, the Marine may need to exert more pressure with his finger to engage the magazine release or slide release buttons to compensate for the thickness of the gloves.

**(2) Thumbcocking the Pistol.** The Marine may find it particularly difficult to fire the pistol in the double action mode due to the position of the trigger and the limited amount of space between the trigger and the trigger guard. Therefore, if the situation permits, the Marine may wish to thumbcock the pistol to fire in single action mode. In single action, there is more space between the trigger guard and the trigger, making it easier to position the finger on the trigger. However, the Marine's ability to thumbcock the pistol may also be hindered by the bulk of the gloves. Therefore, to thumbcock the pistol while wearing gloves, the Marine may perform one of the following procedures:

**(a) Method One.** Loop a section of 550 cord (approximately two inches) through the loop located on the top rear portion of the hammer. The length of the cord should not interfere with the weapon's cycle of operation or with the Marine's ability to establish sight alignment. Once the cord has been attached to the hammer, take the weapon off safe and pull downward on the cord to cock the hammer. See figure 2-27.

**Figure 2-27. Cocking the Pistol with 550 Cord.**

**(b) Method Two.** Take the weapon off safe, rotate the weapon inboard, and place the top of the hammer against a secure surface (cartridge belt, heel of boot, etc.). Applying pressure on the pistol to keep the hammer in place, push downward on the pistol in one continuous motion to cock the hammer. See figure 2-28.

**Figure 2-28. Cocking the Pistol with Secure Surface.**

**(3) Firing the Pistol.** The principles of target engagement do not change when wearing gloves, however, the specific ability to manipulate and control the trigger will be greatly affected by the thickness of the gloves around the fingers. Wearing gloves reduces the Marine's sense of feel or touch in the fingers which make it difficult to apply trigger control when firing. The Marine may find that he needs to apply more pressure than normal with his trigger finger just to establish initial contact with the trigger. Once the Marine can "feel" the trigger through the gloves, then he can begin applying the pressure required to fire a shot. This action may increase the chances of firing the weapon prematurely, due to excessive pressure on the trigger. Dry firing while wearing gloves will allow the Marine to learn how to apply trigger control consistently and determine how much pressure he will need to effectively fire a shot.

## 2009. Preventive Maintenance

If the M9 service pistol is to be effective, it must be maintained in a state of operational readiness at all times. Maintenance of the M9 service pistol is a continuous effort. A clean, properly lubricated, well-maintained pistol will fire when needed.

**a. Pistol Disassembly.** Before disassembling the pistol, ensure the pistol is in Condition 4. The pistol is in Condition 4 when the magazine is removed, the chamber is empty, the slide is forward, and the safety is on. To disassemble the pistol, perform the following steps in sequence:

- Hold the pistol in the right hand with the muzzle slightly elevated. Reach over the slide with the left hand and place the left index finger on the disassembly button and the left thumb on the disassembly lever. Press the disassembly button and hold it in place while rotating the disassembly lever downward until it stops.

**Note**

A left-handed Marine will place the right thumb on the disassembly button and the right index finger on the disassembly lever.

- Pull the slide and barrel assembly forward and remove it while wrapping the fingers around the slide to hold the recoil spring and recoil spring guide in place.

- Turn the slide assembly over in the left hand until the recoil spring and recoil spring guide face up. Place the right thumb on the end of the recoil spring guide next to the locking block and compress the recoil spring and spring guide while lifting and removing them from the slide and barrel assembly. See figure 2-29. Allow the recoil spring to decompress slowly.

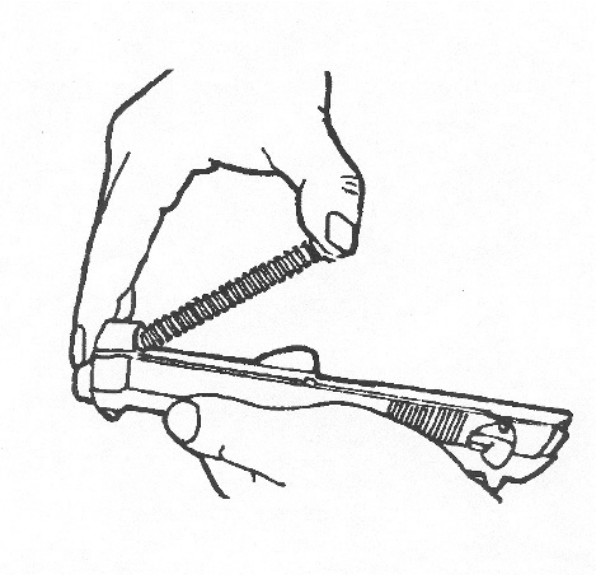

**Figure 2-29. Removing the Recoil Spring and Recoil Spring Guide.**

- Separate the recoil spring from the recoil spring guide.

- Push in on the locking block plunger with the right index finger while pushing the barrel forward slightly. Lift and remove the locking block and barrel assembly from the slide. This is the furthest the Marine is authorized to disassemble the weapon. Any further disassembly is to be performed by ordnance personnel only. See figure 2-30.

**Figure 2-30. M9 Service Pistol Disassembled.**

**b. Disassembly of the Magazine.** See figure 2-31.

- Grip the magazine firmly in the left hand with the floorplate up and the thumb resting against the flat end of the floorplate.

- Release the floorplate by pushing down on the floorplate retainer stud in the center of the floorplate (this is done with a blunt object like an ink pen). At the same time, slide the floorplate a short distance forward with the thumb.

- While maintaining the magazine spring pressure with the thumb, remove the floorplate from the magazine.

- Remove the floorplate retainer and magazine spring and follower from the magazine tube.

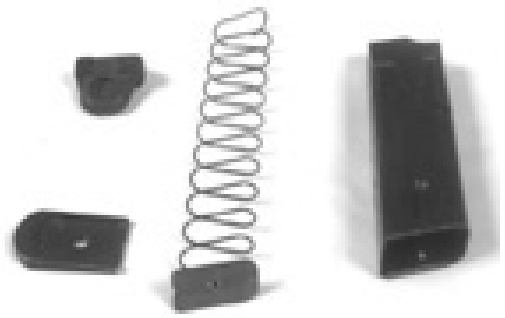

**Figure 2-31. M9 Service Pistol Magazine Disassembled.**

**c. Inspection of the Pistol.** Once the pistol has been disassembled, it must be thoroughly inspected to ensure it is in serviceable condition. The inspection of the pistol is a continuous process during cleaning and reassembly of the pistol.

**(1) Slide Assembly.** Check for free movement of the safety. Ensure the rear sight is secure.

**(2) Barrel Assembly.** Inspect the bore and chamber for pitting or obstructions. Check the locking block plunger for free movement of the locking block. Inspect the locking lugs for cracks and burrs.

**(3) Recoil Spring and Recoil Spring Guide.** Check the recoil spring for damage. Check that it is not bent. Check the recoil spring guide for straightness and smoothness. Check to be sure it is free of cracks and burrs.

**(4) Receiver Assembly.** Check for bends, chips, and cracks. Check for free movement of the slide stop and magazine catch assembly. Check the guide rails for excessive wear, burrs, cracks, or chips.

**(5) Magazine Assembly.** Check the spring and follower for damage. Ensure the lips of the magazine are not excessively bent and are free of cracks and burrs. The magazine tube should not be bent or dirty.

**d. Cleaning and Lubrication of the Pistol.** Only authorized cleaning materials should be used to clean and lubricate the pistol. If these items are not issued with the weapon, they may be obtained from the armory.

**(1) Slide Assembly.** Clean the slide assembly with a cloth. A general purpose brush and cleaning lubricant protectant (CLP) can assist in the removal of excess dirt and carbon buildup. Ensure the safety, bolt face, slide guides, and extractor are free of dirt and residue. Wipe dry with a cloth and apply a light coat of CLP.

**(2) Barrel Assembly.** Insert a bore brush with CLP into the chamber end of the barrel, making sure it completely clears the muzzle before it is pulled back through the bore.

**CAUTION**
Insert the bore brush through the chamber
to prevent damage to the crown of the barrel.

Repeat several times to loosen carbon deposits. Dry the barrel by pushing a swab through the bore. Repeat until a clean swab can be observed. Clean the locking block with a general purpose brush. Using the barrel brush, apply a light coat of CLP to the bore and chamber area and lubricate the exterior surfaces of the barrel and locking block.

**(3) Recoil Spring and Recoil Spring Guide.** Clean the recoil spring and recoil spring guide using CLP and a general purpose brush or cloth. After wiping the recoil spring and recoil spring guide clean, apply a light coat of CLP.

**(4) Receiver.** Wipe the receiver assembly clean with a cloth. Use a general purpose brush for areas that are hard to reach. Pay special attention to the disassembly lever, trigger, slide stop, hammer, and magazine release button. Apply a light coat of CLP.

**CAUTION**
Do not allow the hammer to fall with full
force by pulling the trigger when the slide
is removed because this can cause damage to
the receiver and hammer.

**(5) Magazine.** Clean the magazine tube and follower with CLP and a general purpose brush. With a cloth, wipe the magazine spring, floorplate retainer, and floorplate clean. Apply a light coat of CLP.

**e. Pistol Reassembly.** After the M9 service pistol has been cleaned and lubricated, it must be reassembled properly to ensure its serviceability.

- With the left hand, grasp the slide with the bottom facing up and the muzzle pointing toward the body. With the right hand, grasp the barrel assembly with the locking block facing up. With the index finger, push in the locking block plunger while placing the thumb on the base of the locking block.

- Insert the muzzle of the barrel assembly into the forward open end of the slide. At the same time, lower the rear of the barrel assembly by slightly moving the barrel downward. The locking block should fall into the notches of the slide assembly.

- Slip the recoil spring guide into the recoil spring.

- Insert the end of the recoil spring and recoil spring guide into the slide recoil spring housing. At the same time, compress the recoil spring and lower the spring guide until it is fully seated onto the locking block cutaway.

- With the left hand, grasp the slide and barrel assembly, sights up, and wrap the fingers around the slide assembly to hold the recoil spring and guide in place. Align the slide assembly guide rails onto the receiver assembly guide rails.

- Push the slide rearward while pushing up on the slide stop with the thumb. Lock the slide to the rear while maintaining upward pressure on the slide stop. Rotate the disassembly lever upward. An audible click indicates a positive lock.

**g. Pistol Magazine Reassembly**

- Grip the magazine firmly in the left hand with the floorplate end up and the counting holes facing the Marine. Insert the follower into the magazine so the flat end of the follower is against the flat end of the magazine.

- Ensure the floorplate retainer is attached to the first curve of the bottom coil.

- Holding the spring upright with the right hand, insert the spring into the magazine tube so the flat end of the floorplate retainer is against the flat end of the magazine.

- Push the magazine spring and floorplate retainer down with the right hand and hold it in place with the thumb of the left hand. With the right hand, slide the floorplate over the side walls of the magazine until fully seated. This will be indicated by an aubible click.

### 2010. Safety/Function Check

A safety/function check is performed after reassembling the M9 service pistol. Perform the following to ensure the pistol is operational:

- Ensure there is no ammunition in the chamber of the pistol.
- With the safety in the safe position, depress the slide stop, allowing the slide to return fully forward. At the same time, the hammer should fall to the full forward position.
- Pull and release the trigger. The firing pin block should move up and down but the hammer should not move.
- Place the safety in the fire position.
- Pull the trigger to check the double action. The hammer should cock and fall.
- Pull the trigger again and hold it to the rear. With the fingers and thumb of the left hand, grasp the serrated sides of the slide just forward of the safety. Pull the slide to its rearmost position and release it while holding the trigger to the rear. Release the trigger. A click should be heard and the hammer should not fall.
- Pull the trigger to check the single action. The hammer should fall. Place the safety on safe.
- If the safety/function check does not indicate an operational pistol, take the pistol to organizational maintenance or the next authorized repair level.

### 2011. User Serviceability Inspection

Marines are responsible for performing a user serviceability inspection on their weapons prior to live fire. The user serviceability inspection ensures the weapon is in an acceptable operating condition. This inspection is not intended to replace the detailed weapon components inspection following disassembly or the Limited Technical Inspection (LTI) or pre-fire inspection (PFI) conducted by a qualified armorer. To conduct a user serviceability inspection on the pistol, perform the following steps:

- Ensure the magazine release button is on the left side of the pistol for right-handed Marines, the right side of the pistol for left-handed Marines.
- Ensure the magazine seats into the magazine well when it is inserted and cannot be pulled out.
- Ensure the slide stays locked to the rear when the slide is pulled rearward with an empty magazine in the weapon.

- Ensure the magazine falls out freely when the magazine release button is depressed.
- Repeat the steps above with the second magazine.
- With the slide locked to the rear, lubricate the spring guide, the top of the barrel just forward of the front sight, and guide rails of the slide assembly behind the safety. With the muzzle pointed downward, work the slide several times and release.
- Visually inspect the external parts of the pistol to ensure there are no cracks or excessive wear.
- Perform a safety/function check of the pistol.

## 2012. Maintenance of the Pistol in Abnormal Conditions

Combat situations can place Marines in a variety of extreme weather conditions. To ensure the continued operation of the M9 service pistol, it is important to maintain the pistol properly in these conditions.

### a. Extreme Cold

- When operating the pistol in extremely cold climates, clean and lubricate the pistol inside at room temperature, if possible.
- Apply a light coat of Lubricant Arctic Weather (LAW) to all functional parts.
- Always keep the pistol dry.
- To prevent freezing, keep the pistol covered when moving from a warm to a cold area. This will permit gradual cooling of the pistol.
- Do not lay a hot pistol in snow or on ice.
- Always keep snow out of the bore of the barrel. If snow should enter the bore, clean the bore before firing using a swab and cleaning rod.

### b. Hot, Wet Climates

- Perform maintenance more frequently. Inspect hidden surfaces for corrosion. If corrosion is found, clean and lubricate.
- To help prevent corrosion, remove handprints with a clean cloth. Dry the pistol with a cloth and lubricate it with CLP.

- Check ammunition and magazines frequently for corrosion. Disassemble and clean the magazines with CLP and wipe dry with a clean cloth. If necessary, clean ammunition with a dry cloth.

**c. Hot, Dry Climates**

- Dust and sand can get into the pistol and cause stoppages and excessive wear on component contact surfaces during firing. Keep the pistol covered whenever possible.

- Corrosion is less likely to form on metal parts in a dry climate. Therefore, lightly lubricate internal working surfaces with CLP. Do not lubricate external parts of the pistol. Wipe excess lubricant from exposed surfaces. Do not lubricate internal components of the magazine.

**d. Heavy Rain and Fording Operations**

- Always attempt to keep the pistol dry.

- Drain any water from the barrel prior to firing. Dry the bore with a swab and cleaning rod.

- Generously lubricate internal and external surfaces of the pistol with CLP.

**e. Amphibious Conditions.** If the weapon comes into contact with salt water, clean the weapon as soon as possible. Wash the weapon with fresh water if time does not permit cleaning in accordance with TM 1005A-10/1.